



TAUNTON MUNICIPAL AIRPORT COMMISSION

MINUTES OF MEETING

March 25, 2015

Commissioners: Fred Terra, Chairman
Bob Adams, Vice-Chairman
William Manganiello
Jim Madigan
Burton Schriber
Charles Malo
Jan Boboruzian

Airport Manager: Dan Raposa
Treasurer: Joe Lawlor (absent)
Recording Secretary: Gwendolyn Borden
Airport Ground Services: Ted Porada

Others in Attendance: Mitch Buckley: Alpha One Flight School in Plymouth
Airport Tenants/Users: Doug Cooper, Jerry Field,
Mike Dupont, Melinda Paine-Dupont, Luis Gonzalez, Charlie
Pickett, Ken Gibson, Steve Goldin, Dick Rodier, Dick Griffith,
Tom Noonan, Jessica Spreng, Joe Sousa, Don Almeida, Frank
Nowak, Doel C. Torres

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Commission Chairman Fred Terra

Airport Engineers Projects Update – Fred informed all that Jim Miklas cannot be here this evening due to a prior commitment and read the status report Jim submitted. (See attached report for specifics).

Secretary's Report February 26, 2015. Jan: motions to accept as presented. Jim: seconds the motion. Discussion: none. All in favor: unanimous. So voted.

Treasurers' Report for February 2015 – Fred reported on airport finances in Joes' absence and reporting **INCOME** of \$21,727.06 and **EXPENSES** of \$11,788.86 for a **Positive Cash Flow** of \$9,938.20. Fred reported on **account balances in the General Ledger 25 Account** of \$110,726.12 and the **Grants Ledger 22 Account** of \$33,737.05. Jim: motions to accept the report subject to audit and authorize the processing of the bills for payment. Jan: seconds the motion. Discussion: none. All in favor: unanimous. So voted.

Airport Managers Report – Dan reported on the following:

1. **Fuel Survey** – The fuel survey shows prices at other airports in the range of \$4.94 to \$6.00 per gallon. We're right in the middle with our current prices being \$5.14/gallon for cash sales, and \$5.30 gallon for credit card, checks and house accounts. Two months of bad weather have been hard on fuel sales, the worst Dan has seen. Sales are getting a little better with good weather.
2. **Airside Inspections** – We've had some lights out and have been working on them. A problem we've been running into is the ground is so soft that the lights are sinking into the ground, so we're taking care of them as we can get to them. We have about 2 or 3 runway lights out in one section and a couple of blue lights are out. Also, 1 runway end light is out that will be taken care of shortly. We have an alarm system for high groundwater for the fuel farm. That alarm has been going off which is typical for this time of year with snow melt and rain. We pumped the tank 3 or 4 times in the past week. We've also been pumping water from the basement in the old terminal building. **Rope** is available for tie downs if anyone is in need of rope.
3. **Land Lease Requests** – Dan reported that **Project Take Off and Hangarme** leases are now available for signing. There have been many land lease interests expressed and reported on the following:
 - (1) February 12th **request of Charlie Malo** to construct a hangar on Lot 7 (area between Fallon and Raven).
 - 2) February 13th **request of Ken Gibson and Joe Denobrega** to develop newly identified land on west end of airport past runway 12.
 - (3) February 13th request of **Ken Gibson and Joe Denobrega** to construct a hangar on Lot 7 (area between Fallon and Raven) 2nd in line behind Malo for this area.
 - (4) March 9th request of Peter Malewicz to construct a hangar on Lot 7 (area between Fallon and Raven) 3rd in line behind Malo, Gibson and Denobrega for this area.
 - (5) March 5th request of Dr. John Young to construct a hangar on Lot 13, (area to rear of Raven II, Superior Aero).Fred informed Charlie Malo, that being a commissioner, he would need to obtain a disclosure form from the Mayor so there would be no conflict of interest for him building a hangar on the airport.
4. On April 1st, Dan will be attending the **Aviation/Transportation Education Expo at Logan**. The event is put on by MassDOT and the FAA. Dan was invited to attend by Ken Gibson. We also received an invitation from MassDOT.
5. **USDA Contract Follow-up** – Dan reported that at the time this was being discussed we had received an estimate for the project. The consensus at the time was that the deer aren't as active as they were. However in meeting with various individuals of MassDOT Aeronautics and due to the circumstances of pending litigation, Dan recommends that we contact the USDA and have them come out and do what they need to do. We need to show that we are taking a pro-active stance on managing the deer population problem. Dan has contacted ASG and they have suggested that we have a wildlife management assessment survey done by either the FAA or MassDOT Aeronautics. Fred said that Chris Willenborg was here this past week and has talked on this issue before and has strongly suggested that we do this. Fred stated that

Chris seemed a little upset that we had not followed through to get the program started. It's not something we want to do, but we get money from MassDOT and we need to be pro-active to eradicate a hazard to pilots and Fred asks for a motion to get this going. Charlie is against the deer program and stated that for every one deer you eliminate, 2 more will show up and it's throwing money away. Fred told Charlie that he agrees with him but it's one of those things that we may be able to recoup the cost from MassDOT. Dan informed all that there is more of an explanation for proceeding on this issue because of the pending litigation with regards to an aircraft striking a deer. **Bob: motions that Dan contact the proper authority to get the program started. Jan: seconds. Discussion: none. All in favor: Jim, Bill, Burton, Jan, Bob. Opposed: Charlie. Motion passes. So voted.**

6. **Conflict of Interest** – Dan asked that the commissioners complete the on line training and give the certificate of completion to him so that he can submit to the city clerk as required by law.
7. **Manager Vacation** – April 14 – 28. Dan has secured coverage for the airport in his absence.

Old Business

1. Dan reported that he has not received any further information from Valerie Fletcher on **ADA Compliance** but at this time we are in compliance pending the construction of a new terminal building.
2. **Pilgrim Entergy MOU** – Dan forward a copy of the MOU to the City Solicitor. Dan followed up the Solicitor who stated that he had seen it but will examine it further and get back to Dan. Dan thought we might have it for this evening but has nothing further to report. Fred stated that the commission will sign the MOU pending the Solicitors' approval.
3. **Alpha One Flight Services Update** – Dan stated that since the last meeting he and Fred met with Alpha One representatives. They were looking into a few things and will get back to us. Mitch Buckley of Alpha One informed the commission he is here representing Alpha One and read a letter from Chris Hyldburg, stating their interest in leasing space to operate a satellite flight school at Taunton remains strong, but with a third party tenant in the center portion of the building, they needed to redesign the planned renovations. Their anticipated limited operation will begin in May with peak activity from September through November 2015 and March through May 2016. Fred asked Dan to be in contact with Chris and to start putting the lease documents together. **Charlie: motions to accept the business proposal of Alpha One and lease of area in the terminal building. Bill: second. Discussion: none. All in favor: unanimous. So voted.**
4. **Jet Fuel Update** – Bob reported that he met with the Fire Department, went over the new standards for providing jet fuel and the Fire Department will work with us to make it happen. The next step is to have a public hearing to increase the fuel storage capacity and amend our

current fuel storage license. We also have to meet with the fuel company to determine what type of tank/truck will be needed. The fuel company needs to supply us specs and standards for submittal to the fire department. We're still in limbo a little but we haven't hit any roadblocks yet.

New Business

1. Fred reported that at that same meeting with the fire department, with all the new regulations that went into effect January 1, 2015, self-service fueling is now allowed at MA airports, which is good news for everyone. We will be looking into funding so that we can get self-fueling here.

Public Input

1. Mike Dupont asks that after the deer eradication takes place, does the FAA have a program that will make the airport unattractive so that the deer do not want to return? Fred responded that this may be part of the Wildlife Assessment Management Survey. We're in the process of working this out but we'll know better once we get some feedback from FAA and MassDOT.
2. Frank Nowak of the Taunton Pilots Association informed the commission that the association is planning a cookout in the metal hangar area on May 17th. He received an email from Dan regarding insurance needed for the event and Frank feels that the association has the insurance it needs to hold this event.

Dan interjected that he has more information to add, and to have the cookout on their leased property puts it right in back of the active fuel farm and it basically becomes the airport operating area. The cookout needs to take place in an area such as the grass area near the terminal building or the main parking lot because you cannot have the public walking back and forth near the fuel farm. In addition to that, we have pending litigation to an incident that happened a few years ago and that incident has prompted the action that we have taken with regards to people being in this area. The association is welcome to have their event near the terminal building and picnic table or the parking lot.

Frank Nowak stated that he understands the concern but for this event, the folks who will be coming in are responsible for their crew and friends just as they are any other time they fly in here. Dan stated that we had an open house and we had the area barricaded and roped off and had the best of intentions for the public safety and still had a problem, so it has changed the concept of how we do things here. We had never asked for insurance when someone wanted to do something here, now we have to. You're a pilots association and you want to have a cookout. Hypothetically, if something happens, is the hangar association going to pay for it?

Fred stated that we have received a directive from the City Solicitor stating that there will be no public events on the airfield/AOA without the proper insurance and basically there will be

people walking on the AOA to get to the hangar and to use the restrooms. Fred informed Frank that the association is welcome to write a letter to the commission requesting to use the SRE building and parking lot area, just as the Taunton Airport Association does. Frank said that he is not the only person involved so he would need to talk with others. Fred stated that the commission welcomes the event, but we also have regulations that we need to abide by.

Steve Goldin asks, if the event were to be held in the parking lot, would it be possible to keep the gate open for transient pilots to get back and forth or for them to have a code for that day. Dan responded that the people running the event will be here and can allow them access in and out. Fred said that we will work with them and make it happen.

Frank interjected and said that just so he has this right, as long as he has the proper certificate of insurance and they get port-a-pottys, then they can hold the event at their hangar? Fred stated, no, but you can have it in the parking lot. Frank asked, so the commission is saying "No, period, case closed, we're not having it, and the commission is not allowing us to have it in the area requested?" Fred stated, that is correct, not in the area requested.

Bill stated that, so this would foreclose anyone at any time from having a cookout within their hangar area. Dan clarified and stated that is not what is being said, events are prohibited from the area that would affect the AOA. Bill stated that any area between hangars can be considered an operating area by way of planes coming and going from hangars to access taxiways. Dan interjected and said that what Bill is saying is a broad statement.

Jan asked about the letter from the Solicitor and asks that we review the letter to confirm what can and cannot be done. Fred will discuss the letter with the City Solicitor.

Ken Gibson addressed the commission and for clarification, what Dan has said is that the request for the cookout has to do with the relativity of the AOA and the location of the fuel. It is Ken's personal opinion that the operating area we as pilots use, as long as we have the insurance that states that the event is covered and the city is indemnified, shouldn't we just make sure and clarify this, because he can understand what everyone is trying to convey can understand the liability. He would like to have it articulated into the insurance agreements to make sure everyone is on the same page and there is no grey area.

Bill said that there are different associations and different groups over the years have held events to bring people into the airport to foster interest in the airport and now we've got this roadblock that we have to deal with one way or the other. Dan feels that Bill is stating we're putting up a roadblock but what we're doing is offering an alternative site to keep people off the AOA and they can come and go as they please. Bill stated that he is not saying that we're putting up a roadblock, what he is saying is that we have an obstacle and we have offered one potential viable solution.

Ken said that the facility that he will be building on the east end will be bringing kids and aviation classrooms to the airport so they will be having events there. It would not behoove him to have their events in the SRE building/parking lot area when he would like to bring

both, flying groups or the public to his area. He just wants to make sure that we look at the issue and not just as a broad scope. If at the end of the day, if it's no, then it's no, because it's from a business point of view which will determine where we will want to go with it. Ken thinks we should all look at this with the big picture in mind.

Charlie asked, if we do what we're talking about now by not allowing the request of the association, what would preclude the association the opportunity to do what they want to at the hangar? Fred is not against the cookout, but he is going to sit down with the City Solicitor and see what we can come up with.

Charlie stated that, his opinion for all its' worth, if the association went ahead and had the cookout, there is not a hell of a lot we can do about it or what would we do about it?

Doug Cooper addressed the commission and thinks we should encourage people to open their hangar doors, have friends over and introduce new people to flying. That's what it's about. Friends are escorted guests and we all know that we're responsible for the people we bring onto the field. Ken is right, we should take a good look at this because there has been a general decline in the number of hangar parties at the airport in the past few years.

3. Tom Noonan of Baystate Skydiving Center is here this evening to say hello. He has been traveling around the world skydiving and will be back operating in Taunton this spring and will be renewing his lease until the end of the flying season. Tom asks if anyone has any questions to feel free to contact him.

Jan: motions to adjourn at 7:50. Jim: seconds. All in favor, unanimous. So voted.

Next meeting April 29, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. in the Leonard F. Rose SRE Building.

Individuals with disabilities, who require assistance or special arrangements to attend, please contact the Airport Manager at 508-821-2973. We request that you provide a 48 hour notice so that the proper arrangements may be made.

MEMORANDUM

TO:	Daniel J. Raposa, Airport Manager	FROM:	Bob Mallard
LOCATION:	Taunton, MA	LOCATION:	Woburn, MA
SUBJECT:	Monthly Status Report – Misc. Projects	DATE:	March 25, 2015

This memo describes the current status of miscellaneous engineering and planning projects at the Taunton Municipal Airport as of the date indicated above.

AIRPORT MASTER PLAN UPDATE (AMPU) – FY2013 AIP PROJECT [REPLACES PHASE 2 LAND/EASEMENT PROJ]

- ASG has completed draft chapters for Inventory, Forecasting and Facility Requirements. Draft chapters are completed and posted onto airport website.
- Production of remaining three (3) chapters (Recommendations, ALP, and Implementation) is ongoing.
- Airport Layout Plan (ALP) production is ongoing
- Public meeting time/location has been scheduled for 7:00 pm on April 8, 2015 at the Taunton City Hall.

CONSTRUCT TAXIWAY B – FY2013 AIP PROJECT

- Taxiway construction and wetland mitigation is complete.
- Walsh has requested and received a stop work order due to lengthy manufacturing time for vehicle gate.
- Gate delivered to contractor. Installation likely April 2015, due to weather.
- Coordinated with MassDOT Aeronautics security consultant regarding interface of gate and cameras. Camera installation likely in April 2015.
- Continued with project management & contract administration.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

- ASG assisted TAN on registering the airport in the SAM system.
- Attended / participated in Airport Commission meeting.
- Provided miscellaneous assistance to the Airport.